

ADDA
DD/A
86-2193x

31 December 1986

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MEMORANDUM FOR: DDA
FROM: Dave Gries 
SUBJECT: Breakfast for Representative Wolf

You are scheduled to host breakfast for Rep. Frank Wolf (R., VA) and his Administrative Assistant, Charlie White, on Monday, 5 January 1987 at 8:00. Also attending are the ADDA, DD/OL, D/OIT and myself.

Proposed talking points and a biography are attached.

Attachments

100-20

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Virginia - 10th District

10 Frank R. Wolf (R)

Of Vienna — Elected 1980

Born: Jan. 30, 1939, Philadelphia, Pa.
Education: Pennsylvania State U., B.A. 1961; Georgetown U., LL.B. 1965.
Military Career: Army, 1962-63, Reserve, 1963-67.
Occupation: Lawyer.
Family: Wife, Carolyn Stover; five children.
Religion: Presbyterian.
Political Career: Sought Republican nomination for U.S. House, 1976; Republican nominee for U.S. House, 1978.
Capitol Office: 130 Cannon Bldg. 20515; 225-5136.



In Washington: One might think that anybody representing one of the nation's most affluent, highly educated, politically sophisticated districts would try to impress his curious constituents with a flood of information and opinions about the important national issues of the day.

That is not the way Frank Wolf works. He is the ultimate House practitioner of local politics. Considerably to the right of his district on most major issues, he essentially avoids them except to cast quiet conservative votes on the House floor. Instead, he pursues local causes with a zeal bordering on fanaticism. Listening to his speeches or reading his literature, it is hard to tell whether he is running for Congress or the Arlington County Board.

What Wolf likes to talk about most of all is airports. The 10th contains two big ones — National, which is overcrowded, noisy, and unpopular with those living around it; and Dulles, which is under-used. Cutting down on flights at National is an issue through which Wolf has attracted a diverse coalition of supporters, many of whom would disagree with his ideology if he insisted on talking about it.

In 1983, Wolf tried and failed to get the House to support Transportation Department efforts to reduce passenger levels at National by more than one million a year. He also promoted efforts to shift both airports from the federal government to local control. The Reagan administration agreed to that idea, but was heavily lobbied by the airline industry for looser noise restrictions. Wolf threatened to oppose the shift if tough noise controls were not part of the deal.

When Wolf is not working on the airport issue, he often is dealing with some other form of suburban transportation problem. In the

98th Congress, he lobbied for easing the rules governing carpool lanes on a local highway, and fought for more money for the Washington-area subway system. He was in a good position to fight those local battles in his first two terms as a member of the Public Works Committee; now he is in an even better position on Appropriations, and its Transportation Subcommittee.

At Home: Wolf's career is a testament to persistence. Barely a year after Democrat Joseph L. Fisher first won this House seat in 1974, Wolf began campaigning to defeat him. His 1976 effort had the backing of local Reagan activists, but did not survive the primary. Two years later, with more name recognition and better financing, he won the GOP nomination, but lost to Fisher by almost 9,000 votes. The 1980 election was the reward. Backed by a huge budget, Wolf ended five years of effort with a narrow victory.

Wolf is neither eloquent nor colorful, although in his early campaign days he was occasionally accompanied by an aide dressed in a wolf's suit. But he has proven adept at organization and fund raising, collecting more than \$1.6 million in his last three campaigns. That has helped him better his performance in each election. In eight years, Wolf has gone from a primary loser to a general election winner with 62 percent of the vote.

In the early campaigns, Fisher chided Wolf for his lack of government experience. But having been a lobbyist, an aide to Republican Rep. Edward G. Biester of Pennsylvania, and deputy assistant secretary of the interior, Wolf could claim he knew his way around the Capitol. The experience issue turned out not to be a problem.

When Fisher surprised most Democrats by

Frank R. Wolf, R-Va.

Virginia 10

D.C. Suburbs;
Arlington County

The 10th is one of the most affluent districts in any Southern state, but it is hardly fair to identify it with the South. It is basically a set of bedroom communities for civil servants, people who work in the Pentagon, and others whose livelihoods are connected with the federal government. It is one of the most transient areas of the country, with an estimated 20 percent of the registered voters new to the district each year.

Arlington County, just outside Washington, D.C., grew rapidly in the 1950s and 1960s as the work force of the federal government expanded. Home for more than one out of every four residents in the district, Arlington is the prime source of Democratic votes in the 10th. President Reagan won the county in 1980, but Walter F. Mondale reclaimed it for the Democrats four years later. Democratic Lt. Gov. Richard J. Davis took it with 60 percent of the vote in his losing 1982 U.S. Senate bid.

Although suburban sprawl has peaked in Arlington — the county lost 12 percent of its population in the 1970s — there has been some movement of younger, affluent professionals into the county's condominiums and rental housing. These people are more liberal than the average Virginian, but they are transient and hard to rely on

politically.

There are relatively few blacks in Arlington, but the county is becoming a melting pot for other minorities. Asians, Hispanics and other minority groups together make up roughly one-quarter of the population. Arlington has the second-highest concentration of Vietnamese in the country, and its "Little Saigon" area is a magnet for Vietnamese-owned businesses.

Moving west from Arlington into the northern part of Fairfax County, the GOP vote increases. Like southern Fairfax, which is in the 8th District, this part of the county is filling up rapidly with commuters and new white-collar industries. Reagan took 62 percent in the Fairfax County portion of the 10th in 1984; but as elsewhere in the district he ran behind Wolf.

Farther northwest is Loudoun County, home base of long-distance commuters, but also part of Northern Virginia's "hunt" country. Wolf and Reagan got nearly 70 percent in Loudoun in 1984.

Population: 535,125. White 466,595 (87%), Black 35,259 (7%), Asian and Pacific Islander 20,851 (4%). Spanish origin 21,573 (4%). 18 and over 401,286 (75%), 65 and over 40,208 (8%). Median age: 31.

declining to try a comeback in 1982, the nomination went almost by default to a controversial Arlington attorney, Ira Lechner. As a labor lawyer and president of local tenant groups, Lechner had a devoted following. But he also had a reputation for militant liberalism that did not help him in the more conservative outer suburbs. Lechner carried the Democratic stronghold of Arlington, but Wolf rolled up a 16,000-vote majority in the outer suburbs to

win by 11,000 overall. He coasted to a third term in 1984.

With no prominent Democrat interested in challenging Wolf in 1984, the party's nomination went to a former New York prosecutor, John P. Flannery. He derided Wolf as a "pot-hole" politician who lacked national stature. But badly outspent and with no real roots in the district, Flannery did not even win Arlington.

Virginia - 10th District

Committees

Appropriations (21st of 22 Republicans)
District of Columbia; Transportation; Treasury - Postal Service -
General Government.

Select Children, Youth and Families (4th of 10 Republicans)
Task Force: Economic Security (ranking).

Elections

1984 General

Frank R. Wolf (R) 158,528 (63%)
John P. Flannery II (D) 95,074 (37%)

1982 General

Frank Wolf (R) 86,506 (53%)
Ira Lechner (D) 75,361 (46%)

Previous Winning Percentage: 1980 (51%)

District Vote For President

1984		1980		1976	
D	106,911 (41%)	D	76,676 (34%)	D	95,532 (47%)
R	154,507 (59%)	R	120,328 (53%)	R	104,815 (51%)
		I	23,999 (11%)		

Campaign Finance

	Receipts	Receipts from PACs	Expenditures
1984			
Wolf (R)	\$855,993	\$222,404 (34%)	\$616,176
Flannery (D)	\$426,836	\$120,010 (28%)	\$427,297

1982

Wolf (R) \$563,837 \$223,515 (40%) \$557,553
Lechner (D) \$419,030 \$158,617 (38%) \$418,044

Voting Studies

Year	Presidential Support		Party Unity		Conservative Coalition	
	S	O	S	O	S	O
1984	64	33	71	27	86	12
1983	77	23	79	19	87	13
1982	56	39	69	28	78	15
1981	78†	24†	83	17	88†	12†

S = Support O = Opposition

† Not eligible for all recorded votes.

Key Votes

Raise Social Security retirement age to 67 (1983)	Y
Bar covert U.S. aid to Nicaragua (1983)	N
Reduce dairy price supports (1983)	Y
Pass Equal Rights Amendment (1983)	N
Freeze physicians' fees under Medicare (1984)	Y
Bar aid to anti-Sandinista forces in Nicaragua (1984)	N
Pass bill to revise immigration laws (1984)	Y
Cut education spending (1984)	Y
Authorize procurement of 21 MX missiles (1985)	Y

Interest Group Ratings

Year	ADA	ACA	AFL-CIO	CCUS
1984	10	67	25	63
1983	5	69	6	75
1982	10	62	20	82
1981	10	79	0	100

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